Lonnie Hudkins
5 Chestnut St.,
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3/5/92

Dear Lonnie,

I've not phoned you because of my strange routine of some months: I have to be abed about the time you get to work because I cannot help being wide awake the wee-est of hours, this morning the not unusual 1:30 a.m.!

Recent months I've spent much time responding to media requests for info. over the Oliver Stone commercialization and exploitation of the JFK assassination. If I did not tell you, when he did not respond to my warning that he was going to produce a fraud and a travesty in basing his movie on Garrison's rewriting of his history in his remarkable dishonest book, I started the exposé that as I hoped it would thereafter carried itself. Two TV nets interviewed me three times, local TV nets and foreign ones a number of times, and WFAA-TV's interview here began at 3 a.m.!!! Plus print-press and magazines and innumerable calls and letters.

Our growing season is as strange as my hours. If yours is like it you should have marcissi visible and crocuses, too. We've had narcissi up for a month and about to bloom. Last week Lil brought some crocus blooms in from the few of our many plants the chipmunks did not eat. Along with the many and various lilies, hyacinths and other bulbs they relish.

So, with my unusual routine, about 2 a.m. I read the enclosed FBI report in part on you. I sent it in the event I did not give you a copy earlier.

What happened is that despite the innumerable interruptions I started what I'd planned as a lengthy magazine article on the Warren Commission's former counsels' response to what Stone says. As it grew I decided to try to put a book together, with the working title, "Honorable men." I've been going over their performances on the Commission, in their questioning of witnesses and memoranda and what they got from the FBI plus what in some instances the FBI said about this and about them. Thus your memo to be read, or the one about you. We've discussed this in the distant past. My recollection is that you were never questioned by the FBI or the Commission. They didn't even know you had gone to Baltimore. (When was that, by the way?)

We did discuss and I do remember what you said about the phony Oswald number. (Aqueduct denied it to me, by the way.) What I think I've told you is that I got the correct one that Rankin did not get from you. I think it was from Wade. When this got hot again I primed a Post reporter to question you and you then gave him the number "110 something." I have the full number from a cover-the-ass Rankin memo everyone missed and Rankin never expected anyone to see. It is not consistent with any FBI numbering but it is consistent with the numbering of another agency you have discussed with me at some length.

So, what I am asking has two parts. One is an account of what did and did not happen about the phony number and whether there was any questioning about it (I've seen no record

of Rankin giving it to the FBI or of its having it from any other source) and what I'd like very much for you to do, tell me the truth in all the detail possible. If you have to keep any of this confidential, please so indicate so I will not use it. But I would like to know it and see if it fits with anything else I have. This is quite possible because I've put quite a bit about Oswald together.

This includes what Nightline did not air after having access to KGB files, whether or not they knew it.

The Commission and the agency that uses a six- digit numbering system were quite uptight about him and what you were involved in.

I assume you'll want to keep your source confidential and I will. But there should be an in-context record of this for the future.

It is time for me to leave for my early-walking physical therapy. I will if the skunk I smell is not visible. After I return I'll read and correct this and see if there is anything I want to add.

We are, for us, OK, at least pending the results of some recent neurological tests that we get next week. We hope all of you are, too, and that Tom, Jr., is still enjoying what we were pleased to know he decided to do, a fine thing.

Our best,

Harold

Skunks and early-morning me may amuse you and Mary. The birds waste food from the feeders hanging under the roof overhang between the kitchen door and carport. Beginning about dusk skunks and racoons come and glean. They got so used to each other doing this that as the days were getting longer last winter Lil called me to look at what she saw. We have mallards that return every breeding season. One pair, "ours," every year prefer the swimming pool to the pond. Before going to bed Lil puts feed out for them on the concrete patio of the pool. It was a bit earlier than usual the night Lil called me. A skunk and a 'coon were eating the duck ration shoulder-to-shoulder! While we were watching them a grey fox came toward them and us from the field next door. When it saw the skunk it turned around, went in the direction from which it had come, and then circled around the pool, never getting any closer to the skunk until it was out of our viewing. So, when I go out for the papers, about three, and then leave for this walking therapy, I first ascertain that there is no skunk too close.

I assume that the paper routes assassination wire copy to you but I do not know whether you keep any of it. The WxPost avoids using wire copy and the local papers have AP's state wire only. So, if you can send me anything, particularly about the bad books that are proliferating with a hot market for any assassination books, I'll appreciate it. More are coming and "Mortal Error" and "Double Cross" are both fresh out. I think it was after you left Baltimore that Reppert and the Sun went for the impossible theory of a gunsmith, Howard Donahue, of Towson, that by accident Secret Service Agent Hickey fired the fatal shot with an AR 15 rifle, like the M16. I debunked this then and later when Donahue was here. I've not

yet gotten his book but I know what he said about me and he made all that is nasty up. The other book is by Sam Giancana's brother and nephew and from what I've seen reported about it it says what I know is impossible. Nobody alive to sue so the publisher was not worried about libel.

If you saw and saved anything on those three men Garrison and then Stone referred to as "the tramps, " relevant to nothing, I'll be glad to get that. It confirms what I told first Garrison and then Stone.

The Dallas police released some records on them, very little and perhaps they had no more to release.

In general please send me anything you see because if nothing else it will be useful in the historical record.

Do not expect anything if the House assassins committee's records are disclosed. Those it got from executive agencies have been available under FOIA. A friend of mine got about 85,000 pages thus far and I don't know anyone who have gone over all of them. If the committe's become available the great volume will defy access because no paper is going to bear the cost of careful examination and none of the so-called critics ever take the time. As I know from their not coming here to look at the 250,000 pages I have and make available. There will be no smoking gun, there having been no real investigation. The most that can be expected is disclosure of the committee's preconceptions, dishonesties and incompetence. Which, of course, is worthwhile.The CIA's promise to disclose is largely meaningless, designed for the good press it got but actually keyed to a special law for it to do what requires no law at all.

So, the maximum expectable disclosure will be of the papers created by the House assassins and many, if not most of them, will require executive-agency approval for disclosure because the information originated with those agencies.

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